



Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists

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MINUTES

Board Meeting
April 8, 2021

A meeting of the Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists was held on Thursday, April 8, 2021 at the Board's office located at 2777 Zelda Road in Montgomery, Alabama. During the COVID 19 State of Emergency, the meeting was conducted virtually and Board members in attendance via video-conferencing were Mr. Troy Perry, Jr. (Board Chair), Dr. Scott Brande (Vice Chair), Dr. David King (Secretary/Treasurer), Mr. Richard Katz (member), Mr. Russell Griebel (new member), Ms. Leslie Noble (member) and Mr. Chris Bryant (member). Also in attendance, participating on the call was Ms. Bettie Carmack (Board Legal Counsel) and participating onsite were Mr. Keith Warren (Executive Secretary), Ms. Hope Childers (Board Administrator) and Ms. Renee' Reames (recording secretary). Mr. Warren called Board roll and indicated that a quorum was present on the call to conduct business. Chairman Perry called the meeting to order at 10:11 a.m.

The regularly scheduled meeting was advertised to the public on the Board's website, (www.algeobd.alabama.gov), as well as the Secretary of State's website, (www.sos.alabama.gov), in accordance with the Alabama Open Meetings Act. Due to the COVID 19 State of Emergency, this meeting was held virtually.

Chairman Perry presented for the Board's approval the Board meeting minutes from January 14, 2020 regular meeting of the Board. A copy of the minutes was provided to the Board members prior to the meeting for their review. Mr. Griebel made a motion to approve the January minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. King. Chairman Perry called for a roll call vote and the motion was unanimously approved by the Board. Mr. Warren reported that a roll call vote had been established through this motion.

Mr. Warren presented the Executive Secretary's Report to the Board. He reported on the financial activities of the Board, as of March 31, 2021, which included a line-item report of expenditures for this period. He indicated that while under the State of Emergency, the financial activities could be submitted electronically to Dr. King to review prior to the meeting.

FY 2021 Financial Information:

1. Revenue	\$22,650.71
2. Expenditure Vouchers	\$22,756.80
3. Cash Balance	\$7,904.91

Mr. Warren reminded the Board of the cost-saving measures previously approved by the Board. He also reported on the number of licensees for this same period:

1. Professional Geologists (PGs):	537
(comprised of 212 Alabama licensees and 325 out-of-state licensees)	
2. Licenses not renewed (October 2020 – March 2021)	35
3. Geologist-In-Training (GITs)	17
4. Retired	12
5. Temporary License (current)	1

In reviewing the financial report, Mr. Warren presented comparative data on the 2020 renewals, by month, compared to the eligible number of licensees each month in 2021, along with the number of licensees in nearby States and corresponding licensing fees. The Board discussed several causes for the decline in the number of licensees. Mr. Warren indicated that he would explore opposition to legislative changes to the statute and the Board supported developing a list of talking points to support changes in the statute.

Dr. Katz made the motion to approve the financial report as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. King. Chairman Perry called for any objections to the motion, using the previous roll, and there were no objections. Chairman Perry stated the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Warren presented the Administrator’s Report listing activities performed by the staff since the last Board meeting. (copy of the Executive Secretary’s report and Administrator’s report are available for viewing in the Board’s official Book of Minutes).

The Board discussion CE opportunities for licensees. Dr. King stated that he had no formal report from the CE Committee at this time. The Board supported the idea of posting CE opportunities on the Board’s website and mass emailing the licensees about these opportunities. He asked members to present a list of CE opportunities for this purpose and Mr. Warren recommended that the licensees be notified of qualifications for CE programs and the Board review the list prior to posting on the Board’s website.

Dr. King reported that no nominations were received from the three universities invited to participate in 2021 Thornton J. Neathery award for outstanding student. He recommended that the letter of invitation to nominate an outstanding student be expanded: to solicit nominations from more university staff in addition to the department chair, change the name of the award to include geology & specify Alabama, join with other agencies to obtain nominees, etc. Chairman Perry tabled the discussed until the next meeting to allow Dr. King to submit his recommendations in writing to Mr. Warren.

Chairman Perry inquired about having Board meetings with members attending in-person and Mr. Warren reported that plans are to have meetings onsite beginning in July. Chairman Perry stated that this would allow the Board an opportunity to review applications.

The Board discussed review and approval of applications and Mr. Warren reported that, during the State of Emergency, the Board voted and approved the administrative staff to review and make

recommendation for action unless unusual circumstances required further Board review of the application.

Mr. Warren reported that three (3) PG applications and one (1) GIT application for licensing had been received, with all applicants meeting the qualification for licensure. Mr. Griebel made the motion to approve the applications as recommended (a list of the approved applications is available for viewing in the Board's official Book of Minutes). The motion was seconded by Dr. Brande. Chairman Perry called for any objections to the motion, using the previously established roll, and there were no objections. Chairman Perry stated the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Ms. Noble reported that she had drafted a letter to ADEM, to continue the Board's communication with them regarding Coastal Permits. Mr. Katz made the motion to authorize the Board's legal counsel and Ms. Noble to proceed with finalizing the letter and sending it to ADEM. The motion was seconded by Ms. Noble. Chairman Perry called for any objections to the motion, using the previously established roll, and there were no objections. Chairman Perry stated the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Chairman Perry announced that the Board's next meeting was scheduled July 15, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Warren indicated that he would keep the Board apprised of State of Emergency guidelines and plans to have the July meeting in-person at the Board's office.

There being no further business of the Board, Mr. Katz made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Dr. King. Chairman Perry called for any objections to the motion, using the previous roll, and there were no objections. Chairman Perry stated the motion was unanimously approved by the Board and he adjourned the meeting at 11:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Troy J. Perry, Jr.
Board Chair

Keith E. Warren
Executive Secretary

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